

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

SURVEY OF MANPOWER AND EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS
(Including Numbers in Armed Forces)

MARCH, 1942.

- NOTE: (1) As this memorandum contains secret data as to Defence forces and total manpower position, its circulation is limited to a small list of officers who have occasion to use it. Particulars as to numbers in defence forces must not be published in any way and the document must be carefully safeguarded.
- (2) The statistics herein are as at the end of March, 1942. Future issues will appear about eight weeks after the end of the month to which they relate.

1. Employment and Enlistments: The following table shows, as at the end of July, 1939, and of each month since July, 1941, the estimated number of persons employed as wage and salary earners in industry (excluding rural and household domestic) and the net enlistments in the defence forces since the commencement of the war. Net enlistments represent net numbers of men taken into defence forces and not discharged therefrom. It includes dead, missing, prisoners of war and wounded.

Australia - Persons Employed in Industry and the Defence Forces.

End of Month	Employed in Industry (excluding Rural and Household Domestic)			Net Enlistments in Defence Forces (a)			Total (excluding persons employed in rural in- dustry and household domestic service)		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
1939 - July ..	1306.0	420.5	1726.5	-	-	-	1306.0	420.5	1726.5
1941 - July ..	1393.3	511.2	1904.5	321.1	0.2	321.3	1714.4	511.4	2225.8
August ..	1398.1	516.0	1914.1	338.4	0.3	338.7	1736.5	516.3	2252.8
September	1408.1	521.6	1929.7	344.2	1.9	346.1	1752.3	523.5	2275.8
October..	1408.1	527.7	1935.8	359.0	2.9	361.9	1767.1	530.6	2297.7
November	1407.7	533.1	1940.8	378.5	3.6	382.1	1786.2	536.7	2322.9
December	1394.6	535.1	1929.7	436.6	4.3	440.9	1831.2	539.4	2370.6
1942 - January..	1378.1	537.6	1915.7	481.6	5.8	487.4	1859.7	543.4	2403.1
February	1368.0	548.0	1916.0	513.3	7.0	520.3	1881.3	555.0	2436.3
March ..	1363.4	554.2	1917.6	545.5	9.2	554.7	1908.9	563.4	2472.3

(a) See Section 4 of this summary for fuller details of this figure. It represents "Gross enlistments" less discharges and includes dead, missing and prisoners of war.

The number of males employed in industry was increasing until September, 1941, when it steadied for two months, and subsequently, coincident with the heavy military call-ups since November, 1941, commenced to decline. Employment of females continues to increase steadily but has shown no tendency to accelerate.

The main features of the March figures are an increase of 32,200 males and 2,200 females taken into the defence forces, and a decline of 4,600 males and an increase of 6,200 females employed in industry (excluding rural and household domestic). The increase in the males in net enlistments was very similar to that during February, but females increased by 2,200, almost twice as many as in the previous highest month, February. The increase in net enlistments in the four months ended March, 1942, amounted to 173,000, or nearly 50 per cent. The decline in male employment was much less than in January or February, but the increase in females was practically as great as the average of January and February.

2. Summary of Man-power Statistics - Australia: The following table shows for March 1942 the number of males and females enlisted in the Defence Forces, those engaged as wage or salary earners in civil occupations other than rural and household domestic pursuits, and unemployed wage and salary earners. Comparison of the changes in each of these groups from pre-war conditions (July, 1939) and from July, 1941, is also made.

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Australia - Summary of Man-power Statistics as at March, 1942.

Particulars	March, 1942			Increase July 1939 to March, 1942			Increase July 1941 to March, 1942		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
(i) <u>Defence Forces - Gross Enlistments less discharges since commencement of war</u> (a)	545.5	9.2	554.7	545.5	9.2	554.7	224.4	9.0	233.4
(ii) <u>Wage and Salary Earners employed, other than rural and household domestic workers:</u>									
Munitions, Shipbuilding,									
Aircraft	72.2	18.6	90.8	61.6	17.5	79.1	20.8	9.9	30.7
Other Factories	483.6	183.3	666.9	57.0	36.2	93.2	-12.1	9.3	-2.8
Other	807.6	352.3	1159.9	-61.2	80.0	18.8	-38.6	23.8	-14.8
Total:	1363.4	554.2	1917.6	57.4	133.7	191.1	-29.9	43.0	13.1
iii) <u>Unemployed through sickness, accident, unfitness, and lack of work</u>	49.9	18.5	68.4	-214.1	-15.5	-229.6	-39.1	-1.3	-40.4
<u>Total Defence Forces, Employees, and Unemployed:</u>	1958.8	581.9	2540.7	388.8	127.4	516.2	155.4	50.7	206.1
(iv) <u>Normal Increase in Wage and Salary Earners:</u>	-	-	-	59.3	27.5	86.8	14.8	7.0	21.8
(v) <u>Persons drawn from "not gainfully occupied" groups, employers, and self-employed, and from rural and private domestic wage earners</u> ..	-	-	-	329.5	99.9	429.4	140.6	43.7	184.3

Notes to above table:

- (i) Defence forces include enlistments since the commencement of war only. Fuller details are given in Section 4 of this summary. The relatively small number of permanent forces are included in "other" wage and salary earners employed - item (ii) of above table.
- (iii) Unemployed wage and salary earners include all those not in employment on account of sickness, accident, unfitness, and lack of work. Sickness and accidents are responsible for about 45,000 of the above being not employed.
- (iv) Normal increase in wage and salary earners is the estimated increase in the number of available wage and salary earners which would have been expected had the trends of recent pre-war years been continued. Interstate migration which actually occurred between July 1939 and March 1942 has however been taken into account as far as possible.
- (v) "Not gainfully occupied" groups include independents, retired persons, women previously not gainfully occupied, children who commence wage earning earlier than they would in normal times, and persons who delay their retirement from wage-earning occupation. Approximately 10 per cent. of net enlistments in defence forces or 55,000 men included in Class V were formerly employers or self-employed.

It will be seen that since July, 1939, 554,700 persons have been absorbed by the defence forces while 191,100 have been absorbed into industries other than rural and private domestic service. This total of 745,800 has been drawn from (a) unemployed wage and salary earners, the decrease of whom has contributed 229,600 persons, (b) normal increase of wage and salary earners amounting to 86,800 persons, and (c) persons not gainfully occupied, (including retired persons who have become wage earners and wage earners who have delayed retirement), employers and self-employed persons who have become salary and wage earners, and rural and private domestic wage-earners who have entered the forces or transferred to other industry. This latter group has contributed 429,400 persons; but what proportion came from each of the sections embraced in the group it is not possible to say from data at present available. The table on this page indicates that approximately 100,000 of them were females.

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The next table summarises the salient features of the foregoing analysis for males and females separately in three periods (a) July 1939 to July 1941 - the first period of war (b) July 1941 to November 1941, and (c) November 1941 to March 1942 - the period since war commenced in the Pacific.

Particulars	Total for each Period			Average per Month		
	July 1939 to July 1941 (24 Mths)	July 1941 to November 1941 (4 Mths)	November 1941 to March 1942 (4 Mths)	July 1939 to July 1941 (24 Mths)	July 1941 to November 1941 (4 Mths)	November 1941 to March 1942 (4 Mths)
MALES (THOUSANDS)						
Increase in Defence Forces ^ø	321.1	57.4	167.0	13.4	14.3	41.8
Increase in employment in industry (other than rural)	87.3	14.4	-44.3	3.6	3.6	-11.1
<u>Total Increase in Forces and Industry:</u>	408.4	71.8	122.7	17.0	17.9	30.7
The source of this increase was:-						
(a) Decrease in unemployed	175.0	15.1	24.0	7.3	3.8	6.0
(b) Normal increase wage and salary earners ..	44.5	7.4	7.4	1.8	1.8	1.9
(c) Persons drawn from other groups [⌘] ..	188.9	49.3	91.3	7.9	12.3	22.8
FEMALES (THOUSANDS)						
Total Increase in Defence Forces and Industry (other than rural and household domestic) ..	90.9	25.3	26.7	3.8	6.3	6.7
The source of this increase was:-						
(a) Decrease in unemployed	14.2	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.1	0.2
(b) Normal increase in wage and salary earners ..	20.5	3.4	3.6	0.9	0.9	0.9
(c) Persons drawn from other groups [⌘] ..	56.2	21.4	22.3	2.3	5.3	5.6

^ø See explanation of net enlistments in Section 4 on page 5 hereof. [⌘] As defined in (v) in table on preceding page.

The increase of 745,800 persons in defence forces and industry and trade since July, 1939, consisted of 499,300 persons up to July, 1941, and 246,500 since that date. The increase averaged 20,800 monthly for the first 24 months, and has risen to an average of 37,400 during the last 4 months. Normal increase has supplied about 2,700 each month; but while unemployed supplied on an average nearly 8,000 each month during the first 24 months, the last 4 months have yielded only an average of 6,200 from absorption of unemployed. March, however, yielded 10,000 extra workers from the unemployed; but, after allowing for the number of workers idle through normal sickness, accidents, etc., the number of unemployed now remaining to be absorbed into employment has reached an extremely low figure.

The influx of persons from rural and domestic occupations, employed and self-employed persons, and unoccupied persons is increasing and the monthly influx from this source of 10,200 during the first 24 months has now increased to a monthly average of 28,400 since November, 1941. The large increase of 167,000 men in the forces since November, 1941 has been met by a decline of 44,300 in industrial employment, and an influx of 91,300 men from rural industries, employers and self-employed men and delayed retirements, in addition to a decline in unemployed and the normal increase in persons available.

3. Summary of Man-power Statistics - States: The chief items in the table on page 2 are shown separately for States in the next table.

States - Summary of Man-power Statistics as at end of March, 1942.

State	March 1942			Increase July 1939 to March 1942			Increase July 1941 to March 1942		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
(i) <u>Defence Forces (Gross Enlistments less Discharges)</u> (See Section 4, page 5 hereof) (Thousands)									
New South Wales (a)	199.6	2.8	202.4	199.6	2.8	202.4	86.6	2.7	89.3
Victoria ..	154.4	2.6	157.0	154.4	2.6	157.0	63.6	2.5	66.1
Queensland ..	73.0	1.4	74.4	73.0	1.4	74.4	29.4	1.4	30.8
South Australia ..	41.1	0.9	42.0	41.1	0.9	42.0	14.8	0.9	15.7
Western Australia..	58.0	1.2	59.2	58.0	1.2	59.2	22.4	1.2	23.6
Tasmania ..	19.0	0.3	19.3	19.0	0.3	19.3	7.5	0.3	7.8
<u>Australia: (b)</u>	545.5	9.2	554.7	545.5	9.2	554.7	224.4	9.0	233.4
(ii) <u>Wage and Salary Earners Employed, other than Rural and Household Domestic Workers</u> (Thousands)									
New South Wales (a)	564.8	221.5	786.3	25.3	59.8	85.1	-4.3	13.5	9.2
Victoria ..	389.9	184.6	574.5	27.3	46.1	73.4	-16.9	14.8	- 2.1
Queensland ..	162.3	57.7	220.0	- 11.0	6.6	- 4.4	- 5.4	3.7	- 1.7
South Australia ..	126.9	47.1	174.0	19.6	14.8	34.4	4.1	8.1	12.2
Western Australia..	78.8	28.7	107.5	- 5.1	3.4	- 1.7	- 5.0	2.2	- 2.8
Tasmania ..	39.0	14.4	53.4	1.3	2.9	4.2	- 0.8	0.8	0.0
<u>Australia: (b)</u>	1363.4	554.2	1917.6	57.4	133.7	191.1	-29.9	43.0	13.1
(iii) <u>Unemployed (including Sickness, Accident etc.)</u> (See note (iii) on page 2) (Thousands)									
New South Wales(a)	15.7	6.3	22.0	- 96.7	- 5.3	-102.0	-21.3	- 0.7	-22.0
Victoria ..	9.4	5.0	14.4	- 54.2	- 4.5	- 58.7	- 4.6	- 0.0	- 4.6
Queensland ..	18.3	4.6	22.9	- 21.0	- 2.5	- 23.5	- 6.2	- 0.2	- 6.4
South Australia ..	2.9	1.4	4.3	- 17.9	- 1.8	- 19.7	- 2.1	- 0.1	- 2.2
Western Australia..	2.6	0.8	3.4	- 18.2	- 1.1	- 19.3	- 4.4	- 0.2	- 4.6
Tasmania ..	1.0	0.4	1.4	- 6.1	- 0.3	- 6.4	- 0.5	- 0.1	- 0.6
<u>Australia: (b)</u>	49.9	18.5	68.4	-214.1	-15.5	-229.6	-39.1	- 1.3	-40.4
(iv) <u>Persons drawn from Not Occupied Groups, Employers, Self-employed, and Rural and Private Domestic Wage Earners.</u> (Thousands)									
New South Wales(a)	..	..	..	104.4	45.9	150.3	53.8	12.7	66.5
Victoria ..	..	..	..	103.8	35.9	139.7	37.0	15.5	52.5
Queensland ..	..	..	..	35.1	2.1	37.2	17.1	4.3	21.4
South Australia ..	..	..	..	38.8	10.6	49.4	13.5	6.7	20.2
Western Australia	..	..	..	35.6	2.9	38.5	14.7	3.7	18.4
Tasmania ..	..	..	..	13.3	2.4	15.7	6.0	0.9	6.9
<u>Australia: (b) (c)</u>				329.5	99.9	429.4	140.6	43.7	184.3

(a) Including Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Including Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

(c) This total is slightly less than the sum of the figures shown separately for the States, on account of a decline in Northern Territory employment during March.

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The last part of the foregoing table gives some indication of the extent to which available man- and woman-power has been drawn upon in the various States. Per 1,000 male or female population, the numbers of persons who entered the defence forces or industry from not gainfully occupied groups, employers, and self-employed, and rural and private domestic wage-earners are estimated as follows:-

Per 1,000 Population at 30th June, 1939.

State	July 1939 to March 1942		July 1941 to March 1942	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
New South Wales ..	75.1	33.5	38.7	9.3
Victoria ..	111.7	37.7	39.8	16.3
Queensland ..	66.0	4.3	32.2	8.9
South Australia ..	130.3	35.6	45.3	22.5
Western Australia ..	145.5	13.1	60.1	16.8
Tasmania ..	110.5	20.6	49.8	7.7
<u>Australia:</u>	93.6	29.0	40.0	12.7

The high figures for diversion of men in Western Australia and South Australia have been discussed in the last issue of this summary. An outstanding feature during March was the large increase in the rate of diversion in Western Australia in spite of the already high rate for that State. This was accounted for by the continuance of heavy enlistments and call-ups. Males in the defence forces in Western Australia were 220.2 per 1,000 male population at the end of February, compared with 145.9 per 1,000 for Australia. During March, the Western Australian rate rose by 17.0 per 1,000, compared with 9.2 per 1,000 for the Commonwealth as a whole.

The rate of diversion of men in Queensland dropped from 70.3 per 1,000 male population at the end of February to 66.0 per 1,000 at the end of March. This was due to a large decrease in unemployed men during the month, which temporarily relieved the pressure on rural industries and other sources to supply extra men.

Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia appear to have drawn most heavily on female labour. Queensland and Western Australia, where little factory development has taken place, had done little to employ extra women until recent months. During March, the influx of extra women in Victoria and South Australia (4.4 and 3.0 per 1,000 female population respectively) far exceeded those for any other State and the Commonwealth as a whole (2.2 per 1,000 females).

4. Defence Forces: The numbers of persons enlisted in the defence forces since the commencement of war are summarised from official records in the following statement. The gross enlistments are shown in the first column, while the second column represents the net number taken into defence forces and not discharged. It includes deaths, missing, prisoners of war, and wounded. This total is the significant figure for manpower purposes, and has been used in the preceding tables. It shows the net extent to which the defence forces have drawn men and women from civil life. Actually it may be a little understated, as some of the persons included as discharges are probably incapacitated, and not fit to resume civil occupations.

TOTAL DEFENCE FORCES - AUSTRALIA

Enlisted from commencement of War to 31st March, 1942.

(Full time continuous duty)

Services		Gross Enlistments	Net Enlistments
<u>MALES</u>			
Military - A.I.F.	..	227,776	198,407
Garrison	..	28,034	21,807
Militia	..	257,856	238,476
V.D.C.	..	2,403	2,370
Air - R.A.A.F.	..	74,998	68,267
Naval - R.A.N. and R.A.N.A.S.	.. }	18,221	16,198
TOTAL MALES:		609,288	545,525
<u>FEMALES</u>			
Military - Nurses, A.I.F.		1,230	1,102
Nurses, Militia		1,349	967
V.A.D. - A.I.F.		471	471
V.A.D. - Militia		742	603
A.W.A.S.	..	1,109	1,105
Air - W.A.A.A.F.	..	4,956	4,893
Naval - W.R.A.N.S.	..	58	58
TOTAL FEMALES:		9,915	9,199

The total numbers enlisted in all services from each State were as follows:-

NET ENLISTMENTS TO 31ST MARCH, 1942.

State	Males		Females	
	Number	per 1,000 male population at 30.6.39	Number	per 1,000 female population at 30.6.39
New South Wales (a)	199,596	143.6	2,765	2.02
Victoria ..	154,419	166.2	2,639	2.77
Queensland ..	73,006	137.3	1,377	2.84
South Australia	41,102	138.0	920	3.09
Western Australia	58,031	237.2	1,171	5.30
Tasmania ..	19,037	158.1	327	2.81
<u>AUSTRALIA (b):</u>	545,525	155.1	9,199	2.67

(a) Including Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Including Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

Notes: (i) Net enlistments represent gross enlistments less discharges and includes dead, missing, prisoners of war and wounded. It represents net number withdrawn from civil occupations.

(ii) Small differences between the rates per 1,000 population for the various States should not be regarded as significant, as the Military districts do not in all cases exactly coincide with State boundaries. For example, a portion of New South Wales is included with the 3rd Military District (Victoria). The outstanding feature of the rates are the relatively very high figures for Western Australia.

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6th June, 1942.